[*Translation*]

Import of Steel

5173 KUMARI UMBHARATI
SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) the quality and the quantity of steel being imported from foreign countries and the value thereof along with the reasons thereof when good quality steel reserves are available in the country itself,

(b) whether India has the capacity to produce steel to meet its magnets,

(c) if so, the time by which the country will become self sufficient in the production of steel,

(d) whether the quantity of CRGO silicon steel being produced as per the requirement of Electric industry,

(e) whether the quaintly of its production has been increased as per the requirements, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV). (a) The quantity and value of salable steel imported dunng the last three years is as follows

Quantity in million tonnes
Value Rs in crores

Year	*Quantity*	*Value*
1988 89	1 72	1420
1989 90	1 47	1572
1990 91	1 28	1397

NB Imports from major ports only authoritative figures are not yet available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics The quality of steel imported depends upon specific requirement of the importer Imports are resorted to supplement the indigenous production both in terms of quantity and quality

(b) and (c) Domestic production of steel is at present inadequate to meet the estimated demand Government have been taking steps to increase the production of steel The steel industry has been de licensed and the regulation on its pricing and distribution has also been dispensed with These will encourage the private sector or invest in steel production the integrated steel plants are in the process of modernisation/expansion of their plants With the resultant increased production, India is likely to become self sufficient in most categories of steel during the 8th Five Year Plan However, some special quality steels will continue to be imported

(d) No, Sir

(e) and (f) SAIL is making efforts to increas the production of CRGO steel Production by SAIL has increased from 105

tonnes in 1990-91 to 3040 tonnes in 1991-92 (upto February, 1992)

Post Offices in Rajasthan

5174. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices, sub-post offices and head post offices in Rajasthan, at present; and

(b) the district-wise number of new post offices proposed to be opened in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of post offices, sub-post offices and head post offices in Rjasthan, at present, is as under:

Head Post Office	*Departmental Sub-Post Office*	*Extra Departmental sub-Post Office*	*Extra Departmental brach Post Office*
55	1384	105	8417

(b) Further expansion of postal network in Rajasthan is envisaged during the Eighth Five Year Plan. It is, however, not feasible to give details in this regard as the Eighth Five Year Plan has not been finalised

[*English*]

Defective System of Telephone Connections

5175. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present one + one system under which telephone connections are being provided is defective;

(b) if so, the merits and demerits vis-a-vis other systems; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to replace the one +one system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir. All the one + one systems are type-tested and approved by the department before they are introduced into the network.

(b) The merits over normal method of giving connections of all the subscriber carrier systems are:-

(i) Better speech.

(ii) Two or more connections can be given over one cable pair. This helps in providing connections quickly in non-feasible areas.

Only demerits over the normal cable pair arrangement is that more maintenance attention is required for the battery at subscriber premises.

(c) The department does not intend to replace these systems. In places where prolonged power failure are met with, the capacity of the battery at the subscribers premises is being increased.

[*Translation*]

Purchasing Vehicles by Delhi Telephones

5176. MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF